

PHYSICS HAPPENINGS #18

Dec. 9, 1985

1. Approval of the graduate programme

At the last meeting of the board of graduate studies, the physics graduate programme (M.Sc., Ph.D.) were approved again. These evaluations take place about every five years.

2. Grievences: Standing Committee

At the last meeting of the department a standing committee on grievences was approved. The committee will entertain grievences by undergraduates on any matter other than appeals of grades. (Graduate thesis students will continue to discuss grievences with their supervisory committee. Non thesis students with the graduate committee). The committee consists of the departmental chairman, undergraduate program director, director of labs and the president of the student physics society or a student designated by the president.

3. Mukerji and Upreti Medals

At the last meeting of the faculty council these medals were approved. The fund supporting the medals totals \$2305.00. The student physics society has promised to raise additional funds from undergraduate students. (All donations of \$10.00 and over result in a receipt for taxation purposes). The family of Dr. Mukerji has promised additional funding to support a cash award. It is intended that the prizes will be awarded annually starting with the 1986 convocation.

Council also approved the revision to the citation for the Raudorf Medal in Physics as forwarded by the physics department.

4. Fellowship in Physics

The department is seeking large scale donations to endow a fund to provide fellowships for graduate students. Major donors would have a fellowship named after them. The name of the fellowship would appear in departmental advertisement in the Gazette each year promoting the graduate programs in physics.

5. Departmental Priorities

In connection with the budget review, the department has been asked to respond to a questionnaire on departmental priorities (attached). A response must be in by the end of January. Any suggestions for inclusion in the response are welcome.

6. Arlin Kipling Wins!!!!

Arlin Kipling, a professor in the Physics department of Concordia University, is the proud and deserving winner of an FM/AM Stereo Cassette-Corder, Sony CFS-3300 (specifications available on request), from Saga Food Services, 7th Floor Cafeteria of the Hall building. The contest was a promotion by Saga called Incredible Capers which ran from Nov. 11 to 29, 1985. The object of the contest was to determine how many people are packed in a car which was shown on a poster in the cafeteria. The prize was presented on the morning of Dec. 5 in the cafeteria by Bob Bonin, Food Services Director, and Doug Devenne, Director of Ancillary Services. Of course, photographs were taken to immortalize the event.

The same contest was held on the Loyola campus and a third contest was held to name the 7th floor cafeteria in the Hall building. The two winners of these contests were presented with their prizes at the same time as Dr. K. received his prize but they were only students and Dr. K. cannot remember their names.

The number of people in the car is 16. Bob Bonin informed Dr. K. that over 40 names were picked from the box of entries, all with the wrong answer, before Dr. K.'s correct answer was drawn. There were 218 entries.

Dr. K. approached the solution of this problem with the same diligence, purposefulness and respect for the scientific method that he instills in all of his students. Then he guessed. Actually, he was with his daughter, Caroline, at the time who correctly counted the number of people in the car after her father miscounted. Both submitted the correct answer. Caroline refuses to accept the reality that her father won.

Janet Yeandel, Manager of the 7th floor cafeteria, phoned Dr. K. on Monday afternoon (Dec. 2) with the news. Dr. K. first thought that she was phoning everyone who entered the contest to personally tell them who won. Then, after being told that he was the winner, Dr. K. screamed hysterically (like they do on game shows on TV) thinking that in some sense he had won Janet. But he was soon reminded that the prize was a radio.

After the name of the winner was posted in the cafeteria, physics students were overheard saying, "I can't think of anyone more deserving of the prize than Dr. K.", " Dr. K. is finally receiving the recognition that he so richly deserves", and "I sure hope he doesn't play the damn thing in the Physics Dept.".

The radio is permanently locked at high volume to rock radio, which is, for the culturally deprived who do not know, CHOM FM 97.7 MHz. This statement is also untrue. Dr. K. demonstrated the radio in his office tuned to CHOM with the volume turned up full because Judy Kalman, wife of the Chairman of Physics, insisted that he play loud rock music. Calvin Kalman, her spouse, was not in the Dept. at the time to restrain her. Then the radio was moved to the office of Mary Lifschitz, the secretary with a small low-fidelity radio, and with some difficulty was tuned to the station that plays classical music which Mary listens to all of the time. There was considerable static and hissing as the radio struggled to demodulate the dissonances of this curious music.

Everyone in the Physics Dept. heartily congratulates Dr. K. and wishes him luck in the many contests, including beauty contests, which he plans to enter in the future.

(The above item was found on Mrs. Lifschitz' word processor when the Happening was prepared and is not the responsibility of the undersigned).

C.S. Kalman
Chair, Physics Department

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